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COUNTRY East Germany SECURITY INFORMATION 25X1A
REPORT NO. [REDACTED]

TOPIC KVP Units in the Altwarp Area

EVALUATION [REDACTED] 25X1X PLACE OBTAINED [REDACTED] 25X1A

DATE OF CONTENT [REDACTED] 25X1A

DATE OBTAINED [REDACTED] PREPARED 30 September 1953

REFERENCE:

PAGES 2 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)

REMARKS

SOURCE

[REDACTED] 25X1X

1. Between 16 August and 5 September 1953, the strength of the AAA unit stationed in the Altwarp area decreased. About 1 September, approximately 300 personnel transferred to the Berlin area, reportedly to Oranienburg. At the same time 40 political reliable KVPs were transferred to an officers school. The transferred soldiers had to re-enlist for three more years. During the reported period, many KVPs, including officers, were discharged. 1
2. The entire AAA unit, except for a small guard detail, was stationed at the summer camp, about 2 km south of Altwarp. The unit was equipped with 32 x 37-mm guns, 38 x 85-mm guns and a radar set. Basic training was only conducted on 10 x 85-mm guns. Firing with live ammunition at air sleeves was practiced with 37-mm guns. The last practice of this kind was observed on 26 August and involved 8 x 37-mm guns which were emplaced north of the road leading to Altwarp. The air sleeve was towed by a twin-engine monoplane with single rudder assembly. An officer informed the crews of the guns that the aircraft was flying at an altitude of 800 to 1,000 meters and that the cable of the sleeve target was 1,000 meters long. At each approach of the plane each gun fired one round. The best result was obtained by one gun which scored hits at each of the ten approaches. The mobile radar set was engaged in these practices but could not be observed in the vicinity of the gun emplacement. Source learned from soldiers that firing with live ammunition by heavy AA guns was to start soon but that the necessary ammunition had not yet been released. 1
3. The equipment of the AAA unit was scheduled to be brought to authorized strength by late 1953. New trucks and large jeeps of German make continuously arrived. [REDACTED]

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The sedan used by the commanding officer [redacted] Construction work on the permanent quarters was to be completed on 29 September. After that date the unit was scheduled to leave the summer camp.¹

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4. A KVP mortar unit was stationed in the former contonment of the "Dienst fuer Deutschland" labor service. The unit was repeatedly observed moving to the area north of the Altwarp-Warsin road for exercises. Once about 30 large jeeps each towing a mortar, probably of 120-mm caliber, and occupied by 6 soldiers were seen leaving the installation. The mortar unit had an estimated strength of 450 men. This corresponded to the quartering space available in the eight temporary buildings of the camp. ²

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1. [redacted] Comment. According to previous information, AAA Regt Boerner of the Mecz Div Eggesin, equipped with 37-mm AA guns, is stationed in the tent camp and at installation X in Altwarp. In addition to this unit the installation, during firing practices, quartered components of the AAA Regt of Armeegruppe Nord equipped with 35-mm guns. Source of the present report does not distinguish between these two units. The number of guns reported roughly agrees with previous information furnished by another source. [redacted]

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[redacted] The information that many discharges were effected after 16 August is noteworthy as it had been believed that the discharge operation had been completed by mid-August 1953.

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2. [redacted] Comment. The mortar regiment of the Mecz Div Eggesin is stationed at the contonment. According to previous information, the unit had an estimated strength of 1,200 soldiers in mid-July. [redacted]

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